[14th July 1953

Representations from the Tiruchi-Srirangam Municipal Workers' Union.

* 426 *Q.*—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representations were made to the Government on behalf of the Tiruchi-Srirangam Municipal Workers' Union for the reinstatement of municipal workers acquitted in what is known as the Tiruchi Conspiracy Case; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) A representation was received from the Secretary, Tiruchirapalli-Srirangam Municipal Employees Association, for the reinstatement of the dismissed workers including the 25 workers who were involved in the conspiracy case.

" (*b*) On enquiry the Government understand that every effort is being made by the municipal authorities to absorb suitable persons from among the dismissed workers "

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" There are only 50 or 60 workers still to be reinstated. But ever since they were released no single person has been reinstated, and I am unable to understand the meaning of saying that every effort is being made to reinstate suitable persons. Does it mean that even a single worker has not been found suitable? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Out of these, 115 workers 40 have been reabsorbed on a permanent basis and 6 on a temporary basis. The difficulty of the municipal council is that they have not got sufficient finances to create additional posts which are certainly very necessary. As and when additional posts are sanctioned, the claims of the rest of the dismissed workers would be taken into consideration, and they will be appointed.

SRI A. RAMASAMY THEVAR :—" Sir, are the Government aware of the fact that almost all municipal workers in the Tiruchirapalli Municipality who had been dismissed, have been reinstated as and when vacancies arose? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir, nearly half of them have so far been reinstated."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" Sir, if a Government servant is involved in a case and is acquitted of the charge against him, then he is automatically reinstated, because he is found to be innocent. I want to know whether the Government propose to follow a different criterion in respect of workers simply because they happen to be manual workers. What is the delay in getting these people reinstated, who have been proved absolutely innocent of the charges on which they were prosecuted? "

14th July 1953]

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I presume, Sir, that when these people went on a lightning strike (Sri P. Ramamurthi : 'No. '), certain people had to be employed in their place, and it is not possible to send them away and employ others."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" The question is not about people who have been dismissed because of any lightning strike. The question is about those workers who were dismissed because they were involved in what is known as the Tiruchi Conspiracy case. As it is now clearly proved that those workers were absolutely innocent, do the Government propose to see that the Municipality reinstate them all immediately with back pay for the period during which they were not in service? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Only 25 people were involved in the conspiracy case, and the rest are those who were dismissed on account of their going on strike."

Compensation to the families of the victims of the police firing in December 1952 in Nellore.

* 427 *Q.*—SRI B. SANKARAYYA (on behalf of Sri G. Yellamanda Reddi : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether the Government propose to give compensation to the families of the victims of the police firing in December 1952 in Nellore,

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Hon. Members are aware of the large-scale disturbances that occurred during the time referred to and the unfortunate need for the steps taken for putting down the disturbances."

" Although there is no liability to pay compensation to the families of persons affected on the occasion of the police firing for the maintenance of Law and Order, Government will consider the question of granting an ex-gratia payment if any deserving case is brought to their notice."

SRI K. GOVINDA RAO :—" Sir, will the Government extend the consideration to other places where similar firings have taken place, e.g., Anakapalle and Tadepalligudem? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I have answered the question in respect of all those cases."

SRI C. V. K. RAO :—' Will the Government stop killing people by firing and thus avoid questions of compensation cropping up in this fashion? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" It is an insinuation against the Government."